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Patent claims

1. Method of producing a composite nonwoven for
receiving and storing liquids or the like,
15 comprising a carrier nonwoven, which is e.g.
hydraulically needled to consolidate it, and a
pulp layer, such as a wood pulp fibre layer
applied to the consolidated carrier nonwoven and
brought into secure contact with same,
20 **characterised in that** a thin intermediate
microfibre layer is applied to the consolidated
carrier nonwoven, e.g. by means of the meltblown
process, and the pulp (fibre) layer is first applied
to this intermediate layer and everything is
25 interconnected:

2. Method according to claim 1, **characterised in that**
the pulp fibre layer is connected to the
intermediate microfibre layer and additionally to
30 the carrier nonwoven by means of hydrodynamic
needling.

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3. Method according to one of claims 1 to 2,
characterised in that to the wood pulp layer is
applied a fourth layer as a cover layer and
everything is together subjected to hydrodynamic
needling for connection purposes.

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4. Device for accomplishing the method according to one of claims 1 to 3, **characterised in that** the continuous plant comprises firstly a web-laying device such as a carding machine (1-4) or a spunbonded fabric system to produce a carrier nonwoven, then, in order to reduce the loss of pulp fibres in the subsequent consolidation, a meltblowing device (7) to apply a fine intermediate layer formed from microfibres, then a device (8) to apply this pulp fibre (wood pulp) layer, and finally a water needling device (11) to connect the pulp fibres to the microfibres and possibly also the fibres of the carrier layer.

5. Device according to claim 5, **characterised in that** it is supplemented by a device, such as a carding machine (1', 3') or spunbonded fabric system, for applying a cover layer to the pulp fibre layer of the composite nonwoven, followed only then by the above-mentioned water needling device (11).

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6. Device according to claim 4 or 5, **characterised in that** following the web-laying device (1-4) for the carrier nonwoven, first of all for pre-consolidating the carrier nonwoven, there is a water needling device (6) which is followed in line by the meltblowing device (7).

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